

AGENDA – TSC 8/1/11

ITEM NO. 4: Consider request to remove the TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CALMING device at the intersection of 17th Street & Illinois Street.

Facts:

1. The Traffic Safety Commission and the City Commission approved a traffic calming plan for the University Place Neighborhood in 2004. Part of that plan included a permanent traffic calming circle at the intersection of 17th Street & Illinois Street. However, funding has not been available to complete the plan, including this traffic calming circle. The neighborhood was aware that it may be some time before funding would be available and requested that the temporary traffic calming circle remain in place until permanent construction is completed.
2. Due to the nature of the materials, temporary installations do not provide as much of a reduction in traffic speed as a permanent installation provides.

MINUTES – TSC 8/1/11

ITEM NO. 4:

Consider request to remove the TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICE at the intersection of 17th Street & Illinois Street.

David Woosley reviewed the information provided in the staff report.

Public comment:

John Huston, 1649 Illinois Street: As configured, I don't believe the circle slows north-south traffic, there are stop signs east-west; you can go straight through the intersection without having to swerve and many do; I don't see any more or any less speeding; they are a problem for emergency vehicles; I know of one accident that occurred because a large truck could not get through; if something is needed there, I would prefer stop signs; I circulated a petition (attached) Saturday afternoon and got 23 signatures within one (1) block requesting removal; it can be confusing for east-west motorists with a traffic circle 15 mph sign and a stop sign (picture attached.)

Blake Hedges, 1714 Illinois Street: I disagree with everything that has been said; vehicles coming down the hill hit 40 mph; our neighborhood spent at least a year working on this plan; people don't like them and that is what we want to help keep people from cutting-through the neighborhood; it isn't perfect the way it is, but you can't go the speed limit with it in place; cars are going slower since it was put in.

Mary Lou Wright, 1734 Illinois Street, provided a copy of a letter from 2006 (attached): When it snows we don't get plowed very well and vehicles get stuck in the drain going around the circles; I would like to see them removed.

Paulette Strong, 1638 Illinois Street: It seems that hard data was looked at before these were put in, I think we need to take a new look at the data; if a calming device is needed, it should be effective; perhaps we need to get some new data.

Dietrich Earnhart, 1714 Mississippi Street: I served on the neighborhood traffic safety committee in 2000; it took us three (3) years after doing a lot of work; we canvassed the neighborhood with an elaborate survey; we analyzed the data and brought it to you; we had many meetings; we took a vote and brought it to you and the city commission; all of this was a package, we analyzed it as a package and presented it to you as a package; it was an attempt to reclaim our neighborhood as a residential area; any change should be based on a lot of work like we did to get them installed; the devices we chose were well-informed, we had a lot of input from many people; they are visual and tell the driver this is not an arterial street, this is a residential street.

Commissioner Miller asked where it was on the list for a permanent installation; Woosley advised it was near the top, number one or number two.

Commissioner Ziegelmeyer: This neighborhood did an incredible amount of work to get their package approved; we have to remember that stop signs are not a traffic diverter, they never have been, they don't divert traffic, that's why these were put in; I don't think I could be in favor of removing just one; I think the whole package would need to be looked at.

Commissioner Harden: I'd be in favor of whatever the neighborhood wants to do, but we aren't getting a clear message.

MOTION BY COMMISSIONER ZIEGELMEYER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BOLEY, TO RECOMMEND DENYING THE REQUEST TO REMOVE THE TEMPORARY TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICE AT THE INTERSECTION OF 17TH STREET & ILLINOIS STREET; THE MOTION CARRIED 7-1 (Woods: neighbors want it out.)

From: Wufoo
To: Megan Gilliland; Eric Gruber
Sent: Thu Jul 14 09:17:45 2011
Subject: Our goal: Better city service [#164]

Subject	Roundabouts
----------------	-------------

Comments

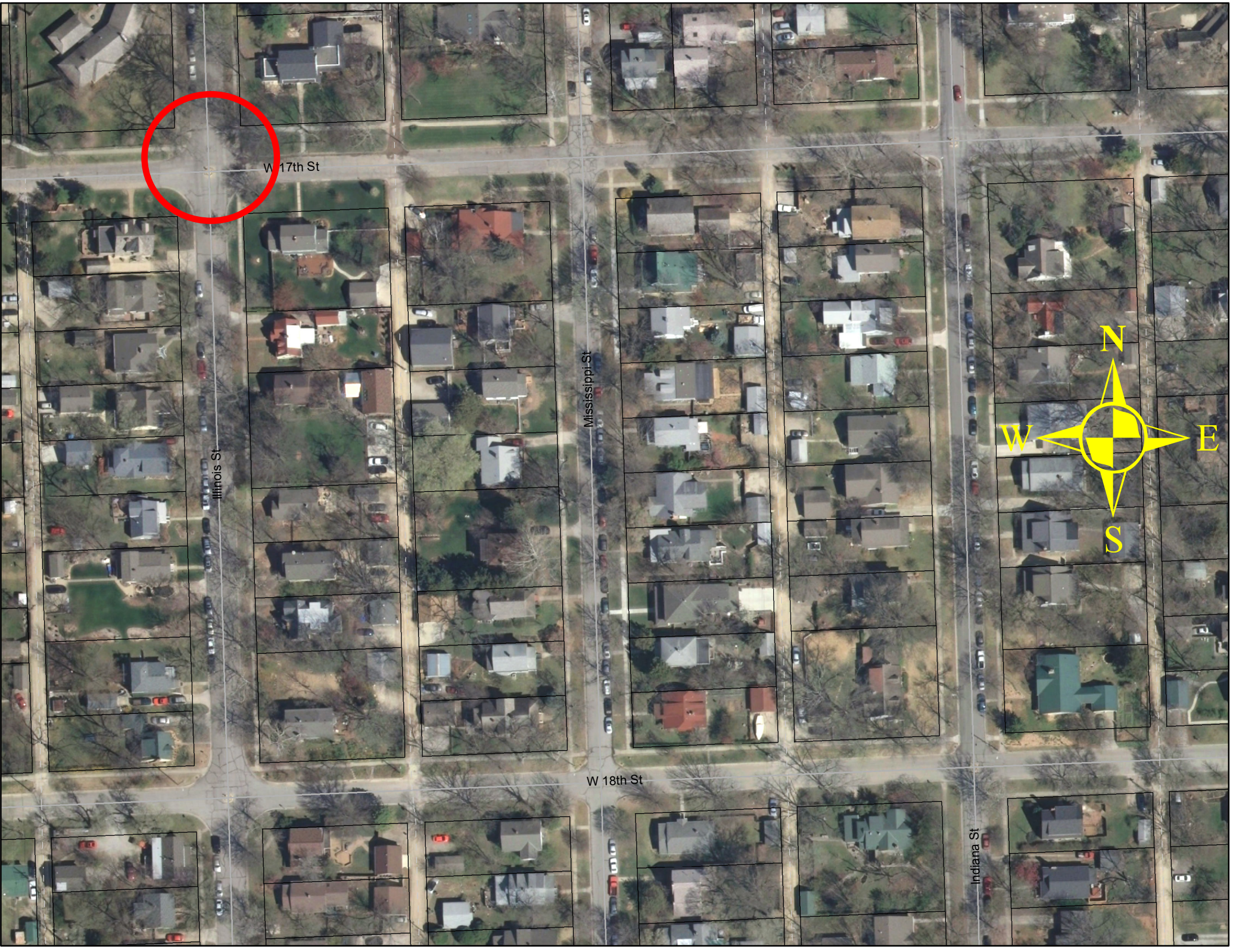
I have lived on the 1600 block of Illinois for 40 years. The "traffic calming" device at the corner of 17th and Illinois was requested by the neighborhood association several years ago but the only vehicles slowed are emergency vehicles. Most of the neighbors who were in favor of these have moved out of the neighborhood. I would like to request removal of the structure. A stop sign at that corner would be more effective. The one at the corner of 18th and Illinois seems confusing when a sign a few feet from it gives notification of it and a minimum speed but there is a stop sign at that corner. Thank you for your attention to this.

Name	Melinda Huston
-------------	----------------

Gender	Female
---------------	--------

Email *	mahust@sunflower.com
----------------	--

Address	 1649 Illinois Lawrence, KS 66044 United States
----------------	---



W 17th St

Illinois St

Mississippi St

W 18th St

Indiana St



Regarding Traffic Calming Device at 17th and Illinois

We the undersigned home owners of the surrounding neighborhood request the removal of the traffic calming device in the intersection.

Name

Address

John R. Huston	1649 Illinois St.
Melinda Huston	1649 Illinois St.
Wanda K. Legler	1630 Illinois St.
Paulette Strong	1638 Illinois St.
Jim Aubel (bye-mail)	1640 Illinois St.
Rebecca Miller	1656 Illinois St.
Journey L. Ray	1701 Mississippi St.
Quincy Lee	1705 Illinois
JONA & SUE GRONBEK-TEDESCO	1655 Illinois
BILL AND SUS ANDERSON	1646 ILLINOIS
CAROL PILANT and Plant	1815 Illinois
GRACE SAWYER	1715 ILLINOIS ST.
Jennifer Wayhost	1724 Illinois St.
Mary Lou White	1734 Illinois St.
JAMES & CHRISTINA HOLT	1800 MISSISSIPPI ST.
Susan O'Craig	1717 Indiana

all out!
18th & Ill.
18th & Indiana
ALSO
remove
these on
too!

Indiana

Gary Reese Schickel
1701 Illinois St.

Paul Brink 1722 Indiana
Jennifer Hanson 1724 Indiana
Paul Ott 1633 Illinois
Ann Ott 1633 Illinois
Susan Shett 1700 Illinois
Michael Duggs 1700 Illinois

203 in Indiana



December 1, 2006

Traffic Safety Commission:

RE: University Place requests for traffic calming devices

A few years ago, University Place Neighborhood asked for more stop signs to slow traffic in and around the university. We were told we couldn't have more stop signs or speed bumps, drivers didn't like them, we had to have traffic circles. Let's go back to stop signs, they're cheaper and effective.

First of all, I want to thank you for the diverter on 18th St. near the Naismith Parking lot. That has made a world of difference with traffic volume on 18th St. from Louisiana to Alabama. Because of less traffic, circles are unnecessary, our 4 way stops continue to work just fine.

The young families for years have requested some kind of assistance at 18th and Louisiana to make ~~crossing~~ crossing to Veterans' Park safer. Since we are desperately trying to keep the young families here and not convert to more student rental slums, I beg you to put some half way stop, crossing feature there to accomodate these families

The four roundabouts (or nonroundabouts that we've tolerated for the last 2 years) have been a joke. People still sail down Indiana and probably Illinois. But they stop at 18th ST BECUASE there are stop signs. Yes, sometimes someone runs the signs - and they do now because the message is confusing (1. slow to 15 mph round about, then 2. a stop sign. Which is correct: both? neither?)

I cannot speak to the 17th St. roundabouts (those living on those corners have some amusing stories) but on 18th St. we have had 4 way stop for years; they work; they require no more expense to the city, which could spend the money on street repairs and/or better signage of no parking areas and better police patrolling enforcing the no parking. (If police swing by at all, it's early morning, so KU and LHS know they're "safe" from about 10 am on.)

So please note my very strong NO vote on 18th and Illinois "round about". Our stop signs work well, use the city's very limited funds elsewhere.

Mary Lou Wright
1734 Illinois
(corner of 18th & Illinois
40 year resident)